

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 291
ANSWERED ON 03.02.2023

COAL CONNECTIVITY PROJECTS

291 SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Railways is likely to sanction 107 coal-connectivity projects worth Rs 94,153 crore, if so, details thereof ;
- (b) the details of coal-rich States in East and South East India connected under coal connectivity project along with their current output;
- (c) the number of trains required and available for Coal mine-to-port, mine-to-mine projects in last five years, year-wise;
- (d) the revenue generated by Railways by transporting coal in last five years, year-wise; and
- (e) whether the project contradicts India's pledge to reduce its carbon emission, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 291 BY SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS ANSWERED IN RAJYA SABHA ON 03.02.2023 REGARDING COAL CONNECTIVITY PROJECTS

(a) & (b): Railway Infrastructure Projects are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last mile connectivity, missing links and alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations etc. depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands. Sanction of Railway infrastructure projects in areas which are not connected by Railway network including coal connectivity projects is a continuous and ongoing process of Indian Railways.

The Railway Infrastructure projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and not State wise/UT wise as the Railways' projects may span across various state boundaries. As on 01.04.2022, across Indian Railways, 452 Railway Infrastructure projects including coal connectivity projects (183 New Line, 42 Gauge Conversion and 227 Doubling) of total length 49,323 Km, costing approx. ₹7.33 lakh crore are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution, out of which, 11,518 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of approx. ₹2.35 lakh crore has been incurred upto March, 2022.

Zone-wise details of Railway Projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website i.e. www.indianrailways.gov.in> Ministry of Railways> Railway Board> about Indian Railways> Railway Board Directorates> Finance (Budget)> Rail Budget/Pink Book (year)> Railway-wise Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

(c): Indian Railways is supplying rakes for transportation of coal as per demands placed by coal companies/consumers. Details of rakes loaded from mine to port during last five years are as under:-

Year	Loading (In rakes)
2017-18	8381
2018-19	9500
2019-20	7710
2020-21	6570
2021-22	9742
2022-23 (upto Dec-22)	10123

No demand for transportation of coal from mine to mine has been received.

(d): The revenue generated by Indian Railways for transporting coal in the last five years is as under:

Year	Revenue generated by transporting Coal (₹ in crores)
2017-18	52,042.21
2018-19	56,963.64
2019-20	54,426.68
2020-21	49,578.45
2021-22	65,856.08

(e): Railways has set a target of net zero carbon emission by year 2030.
